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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 6, 2003**

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# **BORDER PATROL AGENT ARRESTED FOR IMPORTING UNDECLARED PHARMACEUTICALS**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announces today that BRIAN CHRISTOPHER HERMES, D.O.B 2/24/73, of TUCSON, ARIZONA was arrested at the Naco Port of Entry yesterday and charged today by criminal complaint.

The criminal complaint charges HERMES, with violating Title 18 U.S.C. § 545 for failing to produce and declare to the Bureau of Customs and Border Protection Inspector 444 tablets of Neopercodan and 6 vials of Sostenson as required by Title 19, U.S.C. § 1461. The Complaint alleges that HERMES was the driver and sole occupant of the vehicle and that the pharmaceuticals were discovered at the secondary inspection area after HERMES told the Inspector he had no medication to declare.

A conviction carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison, a \$250,000 fine or both.

A criminal complaint is simply the method by which a person is charged with criminal activity and raises no inference of guilt. An individual is presumed innocent until competent evidence is presented to a jury that establishes guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

The investigation preceding the complaint was conducted by the Bureau of Customs and Border

(MORE)

Protection.

The prosecution is being handled by Jane Westby, Assistant United States Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

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